

*Application No. 09/488,568
Amendment dated: March 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 16, 2003*

*Docket No. 3655-0146P
Art Unit: 2682
Page 15 of 20*

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-48 are pending. Claims 1, 15, and 29 are amended, and claim 48 is added. Claims 1, 15, 29 and 48 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

Amendments to the Drawings

Three sheets of corrected formal drawings are attached.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilgic et al. (U.S. 6,580,906) in view of Emery et al. (U.S. 6,011,975), and Gillespie (U.S. 6,014,377). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amendments to Independent Claims 1, 15, and 29

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, independent claim 1 and 15 are amended herein to recite combinations of method steps directed to methods for handling call requests, including providing a plurality of private branch exchanges, the private branch exchanges being connectable to and being compatible with a public switched network, and being connectable to but not being compatible with a wireless communication network; coupling one of a plurality of controllers having computer integration technology to each of the plurality of private branch exchanges and to the wireless communication

network, each of said controllers being capable of instructing the private branch exchange to which it is coupled to execute a proper protocol via computer telephony integration;

receiving a request at one of the private branch exchanges to complete a call originating from a wireless communication device to a central office (or from a central office to a wireless communication device);

determining said proper protocol for processing said request; and instructing the private branch exchange receiving said call request to execute said proper protocol,

thereby enabling completion of said call originating from the wireless communication device to the central office (or from the central office to the wireless communication device).

In addition, independent claim 29 is amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a system for handling call requests, including

a plurality of private branch exchanges being connectable to and being compatible with a public switched network, and being connectable to but not compatible with a wireless communication network, thus preventing the private branch exchanges from communicating with the wireless communication network; and

a plurality of controllers having computer telephony integration technology each of said controllers being coupled to one of the private branch exchanges and the wireless communication network for instructing each one of the plurality of private branch exchanges

with regard to communicating between the wireless communication network and the public switched telephone network,

thereby enabling each one of the private branch exchanges to communicate between the wireless communications network and the public switched network.

Added Independent Claim 48

Still further, independent claim 48 is added herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a system for handling call requests, including

an adjunct controller coupled to a private branch exchange and a wireless communication network,

the private branch exchange being connectable to and being compatible with a public switched network, and being connectable to but not compatible with the wireless communication network,

the adjunct controller having computer telephony integration technology for instructing the private branch exchange with regard to communicating between the wireless communication network and the public switched telephone network,

thereby enabling the private branch exchange to communicate between the wireless communications network and the public switched network, so that calls originating at a central office may be completed to wireless devices on the wireless communications network, and other calls originating at the wireless devices on the wireless communication may be completed at the central office.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the combinations of method steps and elements as set forth in independent claims 1, 15, 29, and 48 are not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Bilgic et al., Emery et al., and Gillespie.

The Examiner concedes that Bilgic et al. fail to disclose the step of instructing a private branch exchange with regard to a communication between a wireless communication network and a public switched network.

Moreover, the Applicants respectfully submit that Emery et al. (see column 10, lines 57-59) merely disclose "The PCS system can integrate a customer's ...PBX services with a wireless version of these services", and fail to disclose a plurality of controllers having computer telephony integration technology, each of said controllers being coupled to one of a plurality of private branch exchanges and the wireless communication network for instructing each one of the plurality of private branch exchanges with regard to communicating between the wireless communication network and the public switched telephone network. The Applicants respectfully submit that it is improper to conclude that the PCS system disclosed by Emery et al. teaches or suggests the plurality of controllers each being coupled to one of the plurality of private branch exchanges of the present invention.

Not every wireless communication network is compatible with every private branch exchange. To address this problem, the present invention provides a novel capability enabling communication between a wireless communication network and a public switched network, even when the private branch exchange and the wireless communication network are not compatible with each other. Emery et al. fail to teach or suggest this feature.

*Application No. 09/488,568
Amendment dated: March 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 16, 2003*

*Docket No. 3655-0146P
Art Unit: 2682
Page 19 of 20*

In addition, a review of Gillespie indicates that Gillespie fails to make up for the deficiencies of Bilgic et al. and Emery et al.

Therefore, in view of the amendments and arguments described above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the combinations of method steps and elements as set forth in independent claims 1, 15, 29, and 48 are not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Bilgic et al., Emery et al. and Gillespie.

Therefore, independent claims 1, 15, 29, and 48 are in condition for allowance. Further, each of the dependent claims is in condition for allowance due to its dependency from an allowable independent claim, or due to the additional novel limitations set forth therein.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject claims, but merely to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 205-8000.

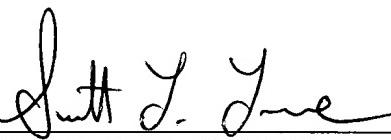
Application No. 09/488,568
Amendment dated: March 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 16, 2003

Docket No. 3655-0146P
Art Unit: 2682
Page 20 of 20

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1602 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 

Scott L. Lowe, #41,458

P. O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

JMS:CTT/jmb

Attachment: Three sheets of Corrected Formal Drawings (Figs. 2-4)